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PATENT

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re application of: Browne, et al.

Serial No.: 10/708,495

Filed: March 8, 2004

For: **VALVE WITH ADJUSTABLE
STOP**

) Examiner: John C. Fox
)

) Art Unit: 3754
)

) Confirmation No.: 2494
)

) Attorney Docket No.: 22188/06622
)

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08/14/2007 EHAILE1 00000072 030172 10708495
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INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT

Dear Sir:

In accordance with the duty of disclosure under 37 C.F.R. § 1.56, Applicant hereby notifies the U.S. Patent and Trademark Office of the documents which are listed on the attached PTO/SB/08 A & B forms and/or listed herein and which the Examiner may deem material to patentability of the claims of the above-identified application.

The submission of the listed documents is not intended as an admission that any such document constitutes prior art against the claims of the present application. Applicant does not waive any right to take any action that would be appropriate to antedate or otherwise remove any listed document as a competent reference against the claims of the present application.

FOREIGN LANGUAGE DOCUMENTS



In compliance with the concise explanation requirement under 37 C.F.R. § 1.98(a)(3) for foreign language documents, Applicant encloses herewith a copy of a Communication

from a foreign patent office in a counterpart application citing such documents, together with that portion of the Communication indicating the degree of relevance found by the foreign patent office.

- ☐ In compliance with the concise explanation requirement under 37 C.F.R. § 1.98(a)(3) for foreign language documents, Applicant submits the following explanations:
-

- ☐ Complete English translations of foreign language documents are being submitted herewith, and therefore no concise explanation for such documents is required.

CERTIFICATION AND FEE PAYMENT INFORMATION

- ☐ The present Information Disclosure Statement is being filed: (1) No later than three months from the application's filing date; (2) Before the mailing date of the first Office Action on the merits (whichever is later); or (3) Before the mailing date of the first Office Action after filing a request for continued examination under 37 C.F.R. § 1.114, and therefore, no Statement under 37 C.F.R. § 1.97(e) or fee under 37 C.F.R. § 1.17(p) is required. **If this is not the case, the patent office is hereby authorized to charge any related fee to Deposit Account No. 030172, order number 22188/06622.**
- ☐ The present Information Disclosure Statement is being filed thirty days or fewer from a Communication from a foreign patent office and Applicant submits the following Statement Under 37 C.F.R. § 1.704(d). Each item of information contained in the Information Disclosure Statement was cited in a Communication from a foreign patent office in a counterpart application and this Communication was not received by any individual designated in 37 C.F.R. § 1.56(c) more than thirty days prior to the filing of the Information Disclosure Statement.
- ☐ The present Information Disclosure Statement is being filed after the later of three months from the application's filing date and mailing date of the first Office Action on the merits, but before a Final Office Action, Notice of Allowance, or an action that otherwise closes prosecution in the application (whichever is earlier), and therefore Applicant submits the following Statement under 37 C.F.R. § 1.97(e). No fee under 37 C.F.R. § 1.17(p) is required. If this is not the case, the patent office is hereby authorized to charge any related fee to Deposit Account No. 03-0172.
- ☐ Each item of information contained in this information disclosure statement was cited in a Communication from a foreign patent office in a counterpart foreign application not more than three months prior to the filing of this statement.
- ☐ No item of information contained in this information disclosure statement was cited in a Communication from a foreign patent office in a counterpart foreign application or, to the knowledge of the undersigned, having made reasonable

inquiry, was known to any individual designated in 37 CFR § 1.56(c) more than three months prior to the filing of this statement.

☒ The present Information Disclosure Statement is being filed (without a Statement under 37 C.F.R. § 1.97(e)) after the later of three months from the application's filing date and the mailing date of the first Office Action on the merits, but before a Final Office Action, Notice of Allowance, or an action that otherwise closes prosecution in the application (whichever is earlier). Accordingly, Applicant submits the fee required under 37 C.F.R. § 1.17(p). The fee is being paid in the following manner:

☒ A check is attached in the amount of \$180 as required under 37 § 1.17(p).

☐ The patent office is hereby authorized to charge the amount of \$_____ and any related fee to Deposit Account No. 03-0172.

☐ The present Information Disclosure Statement is being filed after the mailing of a final Office Action, Notice of Allowance or an action that otherwise closes prosecution in the application, but on or before the payment of the issue fee. Accordingly, Applicant submits the following Statement under 37 C.F.R. § 1.97(e) along with the fee required under 37 C.F.R. § 1.17(p).

☐ Each item of information contained in this information disclosure statement was cited in a Communication from a foreign patent office in a counterpart foreign application not more than three months prior to the filing of this statement.

☐ No item of information contained in this information disclosure statement was cited in a Communication from a foreign patent office in a counterpart foreign application or, to the knowledge of the undersigned, having made reasonable inquiry, was known to any individual designated in 37 C.F.R. § 1.56(c) more than three months prior to the filing of this statement.

AND, the fee is being paid in the following manner:

☐ A check is attached in the amount of \$_____ as required under 37 § 1.17(p).

The PTO did not receive the following
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\$ 180.

Serial No. 10/708,495

Attorney Docket: 22188/06622

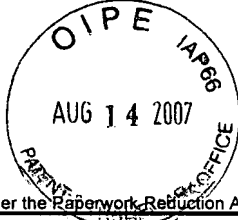
☐ The patent office is hereby authorized to charge the amount of \$_____ and any related fee to Deposit Account No. 03-0172.

☒ **The patent office is hereby authorized to charge any fee deficiency or credit any overpayment to Deposit Account No. 030172, order number 22188/06622.**

Respectfully submitted,

Date: 9/9/07

By: Ken Smith
Kenneth J. Smith, Reg. No. 45,115
CUSTOMER NO. 24024
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PTO/SB/08A (04-07)

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**INFORMATION DISCLOSURE
STATEMENT BY APPLICANT**

(Use as many sheets as necessary)

Complete if Known

Application Number	10/708,495
Filing Date	March 8, 2004
First Named Inventor	Browne et al.
Art Unit	3754
Examiner Name	John C. Fox
Attorney Docket Number	22188/06622

Sheet 1 of 1

U. S. PATENT DOCUMENTS

Examiner Initials*	Cite No. ¹	Document Number	Publication Date MM-DD-YYYY	Name of Patentee or Applicant of Cited Document	Pages, Columns, Lines, Where Relevant Passages or Relevant Figures Appear
		Number-Kind Code ² (if known)			
		US- 2,855,176	10/07/1958	Boteler	
		US- 4,014,514	03/29/1977	Priese et al.	
		US- 4,505,451	03/19/1985	Jonas	
		US- 4,588,163	05/13/1986	Christensen	
		US- 4,685,653	08/11/1987	Kaltenthaler et al.	
		US- 5,108,072	04/28/1992	Kragten	
		US- 6,196,523	03/06/2001	Miyata et al.	
		US- 6,460,825	12/08/2002	Nortier et al.	
		US- 6,481,460	11/19/2002	Fukano et al.	
		US- 6,595,240	07/22/2003	Leys et al.	
		US- 6,629,544	10/07/2003	Nakajima et al.	
		US- 4,815,692	03/28/1989	Loiseau et al.	
		US- 6,814,338	11/09/2004	Kajitani	
		US- 2003/0111622	06/19/2003	Jahn et al.	
		US- 2004/0244850	12/09/2004	Browne et al.	
		US- 2006/0191777	08/31/2006	Glime	
		US-			
		US-			
		US-			

FOREIGN PATENT DOCUMENTS

Examiner Initials*	Cite No. ¹	Foreign Patent Document	Publication Date MM-DD-YYYY	Name of Patentee or Applicant of Cited Document	Pages, Columns, Lines, Where Relevant Passages Or Relevant Figures Appear	T ⁶
		Country Code ³ Number ⁴ Kind Code ⁵ (if known)				
		DE 3829783	06/29/1989	Oventrop Sohn KG FW		
		DE 4442744	06/13/1996	Danfoss AS		
		JP 7-1381	01/10/1995	CKD Corporation		
		WO 2006/089110	08/24/2006	Swagelok Company		

Examiner
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*EXAMINER: Initial if reference considered, whether or not citation is in conformance with MPEP 609. Draw line through citation if not in conformance and not considered. Include copy of this form with next communication to applicant. ¹ Applicant's unique citation designation number (optional). ² See Kinds Codes of USPTO Patent Documents at www.uspto.gov or MPEP 901.04. ³ Enter Office that issued the document, by the two-letter code (WIPO Standard ST.3). ⁴ For Japanese patent documents, the indication of the year of the reign of the Emperor must precede the serial number of the patent document. ⁵ Kind of document by the appropriate symbols as indicated on the document under WIPO Standard ST.16 if possible. ⁶ Applicant is to place a check mark here if English language Translation is attached.

This collection of information is required by 37 CFR 1.97 and 1.98. The information is required to obtain or retain a benefit by the public which is to file (and by the USPTO to process) an application. Confidentiality is governed by 35 U.S.C. 122 and 37 CFR 1.14. This collection is estimated to take 2 hours to complete, including gathering, preparing, and submitting the completed application form to the USPTO. Time will vary depending upon the individual case. Any comments on the amount of time you require to complete this form and/or suggestions for reducing this burden, should be sent to the Chief Information Officer, U.S. Patent and Trademark Office, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450. DO NOT SEND FEES OR COMPLETED FORMS TO THIS ADDRESS. SEND TO: Commissioner for Patents, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450.

If you need assistance in completing the form, call 1-800-PTO-9199 (1-800-786-9199) and select option 2.